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Taking the Reins

Reagan Forces Prepare To Assume Presidency; Snags Already Appear

**Split Seen Between Factions
Of Ford and Hard-Liners
Over Personnel, Policies**

Looking for Some Democrats

By ALBERT R. HUNT

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WASHINGTON — When Ronald Reagan was elected governor of California 14 years ago, his Press Secretary Lyn Nofziger has recalled, "the big question was, my God, what do we do now?"

Indeed, the early stages of the Reagan governorship were chaotic. A few bad appointments were made, some posts were left open and the sorting-out of policy priorities was disorganized.

Today, in the aftermath of the smashing Republican victory on Tuesday, aides insist that Mr. Reagan is much better prepared for the far tougher task of assuming the presidency. "A lot of preparation has been done, and it has been a very skilled effort," says Caspar Weinberger, a former Nixon Cabinet member and a confidant of the President-elect.

Two women, Mrs. Kirkpatrick and Mrs. Armstrong, are leading contenders for either top subcabinet foreign-policy jobs or perhaps United Nations ambassador, some Reagan aides believe. And Mr. Reagan's campaign manager, 67-year-old William Casey, could wind up with a top national-security post, such as head of the Central Intelligence Agency.

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